some particular *swamy* or deity, and each receiving from time to time a dab of red or white paint, as a proof that the priest has performed before it the customary *poojah* or worship.

FIG. 4.—HARPOON HEAD, KENT'S CAVERN

This being so, the discovery of these implements in Europe may have some bearing upon an important ethnological question. We have good reason to believe that the dolmen-builders came, in the first instance, from India, for we find in Wilts and Berks, and elsewhere, exact counterparts of some megalithic structures, and those of a peculiar construction, which yet remain in the same Shewaroy district in which the celt worship is still practised. May we not then regard it as possible that the fabrication of polished implements, as well as the practice of dolmen building, originated in India, where they are still retained, and that these costly polished celts were brought hither by our Aryan ancestors, as the Israelites carried their Teraphim about with them, or as the Trojans, after the fall of their city, are represented in Virgil as carrying with them their household gods:—

"Ilium in Italiam portans, victosque penates;"

and that the worship was only abandoned here as men became enlightened, or were subjected to the dominion

FIG. 5.—BONE AWL, KENT'S CAVERN. (1835.

of some race of a different theology? Since we find abundant traces of the Aryan language in our own, and of their sepulchral architecture in our dolmens, why should we not find in our fields and fens some of their idols? It is quite consistent with, and in a certain sense confirmatory of, such a belief, that in almost every country in which these things are found, they are regarded by the common people with superstitious reverence, as if the practice of adoration had in the lapse of ages merged in a vague and faint tradition of sanctity.

Nor is it any objection to this hypothesis, but the reverse, that these implements are usually found in and about dolmens, as at Tumiac and Mont St. Michel, where nearly seventy highly polished celts of imported materials—Asiatic jade and hard tremolite—were found ranged in regular order. It has been usual with almost all people, in all ages, that those things which they most esteemed in life should rest with them in their graves; and as we often find in our own country the priest's paten and chalice placed in his coffin, or the Anglo-Saxon's sword and shield laid beside him in the earth; so, possibly, these Prehistoric men may have wished that the stone idols which, when living, they adored—the Lares and Penates of their time—should be laid beside them in their tombs.

But in pursuing the train of thought suggested by our author, we had well-nigh forgotten his book, and we have only space to congratulate all those who are interested in these researches—and they are now many—on the ample and valuable additions which he has made to this new and most interesting chapter in the history of our race.

NOTES

THE following officers have been elected for the Brighton Meeting of the British Association:—President-elect—Dr. William B. Carpenter, F.R.S. Vice-Presidents-elect—The Earl of Chichester, the Duke of Norfolk, the Duke of Richmond, the Duke of Devonshire, F.R.S., Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., F.R.S., Dr. Sharpey, Sec. R.S., Mr. Joseph Prestwich, F.R.S., Pres. G.S. Section A: Mathematical and Physical Science. President—Warren De La Rue, F.R.S. Vice-Presidents—J. Norman Lockyer, F.R.S.; Lord Rosse, F.R.S.; Prof. H. J. Stephen Smith, F.R.S. Secretaries—Prof. W. K. Clifford, R. A. Proctor, A. C. Ranyard. Section B: Chemical Science. President—Dr. J. Hall Gladstone, F.R.S. Vice-Presidents—F. A. Abel, F.R.S.; Prof. Williamson, F.R.S. Secretaries—Dr. Mills; W. Chandler Roberts; Dr. W. J. Russell, F.R.S.; T. Wood. Section C: Geology. President—R. A. C. Godwin-Austen, F.R.S. Vice-Presidents—Thomas Davidson, F.R.S.; Prof. P. M. Duncan, F.R.S.; Rev. T. Wiltshire. Secretaries—Henry Woodward, Louis C. Miall, G. Scott, William Topley. Section D: Biology. President—Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., F.R.S. Vice-Presidents—John Ball, F.R.S.; Dr. Beddoe; Prof. Flower, F.R.S.; Colonel A. Lane Fox; J. Gwyn Jeffreys, F.R.S.; Dr. Burdon Sanderson, F.R.S. Department of Zoology and Botany. Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., will preside. Secretaries—Prof. Thiselton Dyer; H. T. Stainton, F.R.S. Department of Anatomy and Physiology. Dr. Burdon Sanderson, F.R.S., will preside. Secretaries—Dr. Gamgee, F.R.S.; E. Ray Lankester; Dr. Rutherford; Dr. Pye-Smith. Department of Anthropology. Colonel A. Lane Fox will preside. Secretaries—Dr. Charnock, F. W. Rudler, J. H. Lamprey. Section E: Geography. President—Francis Galton, F.R.S. Vice-Presidents—Clements R. Markham; Major-General Sir Henry Rawlinson, Bart., F.R.S., Pres. R.G.S.; Major-General Strachey, F.R.S. Secretaries—H. W. Bates, A. Keith Johnston, Rev. J. Newton, J. H. Thomas. Section F: Economic Science and Statistics. President—Prof. Henry Fawcett, M.P. Vice-Presidents—R. Dudley Baxter, William Newmarch, F.R.S. Secretaries—J. G. Fitch, Edmund Macrory, Barclay Phillips. Section G: Mechanical Science. President—Frederick J. Bramwell, C.E. Vice-Presidents—John Hawkshaw, F.R.S.; C. W. Merrifield, F.R.S.; Charles B. Vignoles, F.R.S. Secretaries—H. Bauerman, J. Gamble. The First General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 14, at 8 P.M. precisely, when Prof. Sir William Thomson, F.R.S., will resign the Chair, and Dr. W. B. Carpenter, F.R.S., will assume the Presidency, and deliver an Address. On Thursday Evening, August 15, at 8 P.M., a Soirée; on Friday Evening, August 16, at 8.30 P.M., a Discourse on In-

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sect Metamorphosis, by Dr. P. M. Duncan, F.R.S; on Monday Evening, August 19, at 8.30 P.M., a Discourse by Prof. Clifford; on Tuesday Evening, August 20, at 8 P.M., a Soirée; on Wednesday, August 21, the Concluding General Meeting will be held at 2.30 P.M.

THE next meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science will not be held at San Francisco, as previously announced, but at Dubuque, commencing August 21.

THE following telegram respecting the Livingstone Search Expedition has been forwarded from the office of the Submarine Telegraph Companies in India:—"ADEN, July 11.—Stanley arrived, and leaves to-day by French steamer for Suez, with Livingstone's son. Has letters from Livingstone to the Government and friends. Found Livingstone unwell, but determined to go farther on, and not return before completing perfectly his work. Stanley's men return and accompany him."

IT is stated in *L'Institut* that the Académie des Sciences of Paris, at its last two sittings, has been again discussing in secret whether it will do itself the honour of admitting Mr. Darwin as a corresponding member in the section of Zoology.

THE chair of Natural History at Owens College has been divided. Prof. W. C. Williamson, F.R.S., retains the charge of Animal Phisiology and Zoology and Botany; whilst Geology has been erected into an independent lectureship, and committed to Mr. W. Boyd-Dawkins, F.R.S., the curator of the Natural History Museum.

WE learn from *Les Mondes* that the French Budget Commission has opened provisionally to the Minister of Public Instruction a credit of 100,000 francs, to be appropriated to the collection of the special instruments necessary to the observation of the transit of Venus which takes place on December 8, 1874. The work of collection is being pursued with great activity at the Imperial Observatory, under the direction of M. Alphonse Martin.

THE Academy of Sciences in Bologna has announced that a prize of 1,200 *lire* (48*l.*), the "Aldini Prize," will be awarded to the author of the best scientific experimental essay on galvanism or dynamic electricity. Essays intended for the competition must be sent in between July 1, 1872, and June 30, 1874, and must be written in Italian, Latin, or French. They must be either written or printed; but, in the latter case, must not have been published previously to the two years above mentioned. Each essay is to bear a motto, and to be accompanied with an envelope stating the name of the author. They must be addressed to the Perpetual Secretary of the Academy of Sciences of the Bologna Institution.

THE *Melbourne Argus* states that valuable work is being performed with the great telescope at the Melbourne Observatory. At a recent meeting of the Royal Society, Mr. Ellery, the Government Astronomer, stated that some photographs of the moon had been obtained better than any he had any knowledge of. The picture of the moon taken in the telescope was about three inches in diameter, while the primary pictures of the photographs of the moon hitherto made public by Mr. De La Rue were only three-quarters or seven-eighths of an inch in diameter, though subsequently enlarged to something like two feet.

THE *Times of India* of June 21 prints at length the judgment of the Marine Court of Inquiry into the disasters attending the recent cyclone at Madras. The judgment contains the following chronicle of the weather changes during the three days preceding the cyclone:—On the afternoon of Monday, April 29, the wind shifted from the S.S.E. to the N.E., a bank of clouds forming to the S.E. The weather became gloomy, with lightning; the barometer falling slightly. On Tuesday morning the barometer had fallen, wind and sea had increased from the N. and E., with squalls, rain, and suspicious appearances generally, surf rising, and the current at the shipping changing to the S. During the night there were heavy squalls, with rain, thunder and lightning. It was blowing hard in gusts; sea increasing, and weather still getting worse. On Wednesday, May 1, the weather had a very wild appearance, a heavy squall with surf; wind about N.N.E. Very heavy squalls, with rain; fresh gale between the squalls. Towards afternoon it was blowing very hard; barometer falling. The barometric tide existed, but the mercury was lower in the tube, the current at the shipping setting stronger to the S. There appears to have been a break in the clouds to the N.E. in the evening, and the wind moderated, though still blowing hard, the barometer remaining depressed. Towards midnight on Wednesday the barometer commenced to fall rapidly, and the wind and sea increased to fury; several of the native vessels broke adrift, followed, after daylight, by the English vessels, to which this inquiry is directed. On consideration of the whole evidence, the court is "forced to a conclusion that during the day and night of Tuesday, April 30, the weather was such as should have induced any prudent man to take every precautionary measure for the safety of his ship; and that from Wednesday morning there should have been no reasonable doubt that the premonitory symptoms of a cyclone existed;" especially "at a season of the year when bad weather and cyclones are expected on this coast." Experience, the judgment declares, shows that the chances in favour of a vessel surviving a cyclone by putting to sea in time greatly preponderate. It will be seen from this that no blame whatever is attributed by the Court of Inquiry to Mr. Pogson.

THREE very remarkable paintings are now being exhibited at No. 7, Haymarket, called "Arctic Summer," "Crushed among the Icebergs," and "Arctic Wreckers." In the year 1869 the artist, Mr. Bradford, chartered the steamer *Panther*, of St. John's, Newfoundland, and, inviting Dr. Hayes, the well-known arctic explorer of America, to accompany him, sailed from the above port for the sole purpose of getting sketches of the hitherto unknown frozen north. Reaching the latitude of 76° N. in Melville Bay, he remained there until the middle of August, when the new ice began to form so fast that it was with great difficulty they could force their way through the pack. Two experienced photographers accompanied the expedition, and obtained most wonderful views of the arctic scenery. From the photographs, and his own sketches, Mr. Bradford has now produced these paintings, which must give a more perfect idea of the wonders of the arctic regions to those who have never visited them than any description could possibly do. It is difficult otherwise to realise the gigantic height of some of the ice-walls, the sea-fronts of the glaciers, from which the huge icebergs break off and drift southwards. Mr. Bradford will shortly publish a work, illustrated by over eighty of the finest photographs, showing the different phases of life in those regions—the great glaciers, fiords, mountains, Esquimaux life, icebergs, and the ice phenomena of Melville Bay; the edition will be limited to 250 copies.

THE first number is issued of a new monthly magazine, price 6*d.*, entitled *Grevillea*, a record of Cryptogamic Botany and its literature, edited by Mr. M. C. Cooke. It is intended as a medium of communication among cryptogamists, chronicling discoveries of new species, physiological observations, and other matters of interest, and will doubtless fill a useful place. In the present number, which is illustrated by a coloured plate, the fungologist, lichenologist, bryologist, algologist, and diatomologist will each find something to interest. If well supported by those interested in this branch of botany, it ought to become indispensable to all who wish to become *au courant* with the present position of cryptogamy.

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